

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NSC-05 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0069

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17468

DEPT PASS OPIC AND EXIM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, TH

SUBJ: ITINERARY AND PLANS OF MINISTER OF FINANCE

REF: BANGKOK 17097

1. ASSUMING THAT PRESENT DIFFICULTIES WITH POLICE AND STUDENTS DO NOT NECESSITATE HIS REMAINING IN BANGKOK, MINISTER OF FINANCE BUNCHU ROTCHANASATHIAN PLANS TO LEAVE FOR THE WORLD BANK MEETING THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, STOPPING OFF IN LONDON ON THE WAY. HE WILL ARRIVE IN NEW YORK ON AUGUST 27TH WHERE HE WILL BE STAYING AT THE BARCLAY HOTEL. HE ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON ON AUGUST 31 AND WILL REMAIN THERE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 3RD. HE WILL FLY TO CHICAGO THAT DAY AND FROM THERE TO PARIS ON THE 4TH ARRIVING IN BANGKOK ON THE 7TH.

2. VISITS TO NEW YORK AND CHICAGO AS WELL AS THOSE TO LONDON AND PARIS ARE PARTLY PUBLIC RELATIONS BUT MAINLY INTENDED TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR LARGE INTERNATIONAL BOND FINANCING. EMBASSY HAS HEARD FIGURES OF BETWEEN 200 AND 500 MILLION DOLLARS. MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIALS SEEM CONFIDENT THAT THAILAND WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM FLOATING THE ISSUE. LOCAL AMERICAN BANKERS ARE NOT QUITE AS CONFIDENT BUT AGREE ON THAILAND'S CREDIT WORTHINESS AND ARE READY TO RECOMMEND
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APPROVAL OF A LARGE UNDERWRITING IF A FAVORABLE INTEREST

RATE AND SPREAD CAN BE AGREED ON.

3. BUNCHU WILL BE USING HIS OLD CONTACTS IN PRIVATE
BANKING SPHERES TO ARRANGE HIS MEETINGS IN NEW YORK AND
CHICAGO WHERE HE WILL ATTEMPT TO GIVE INFLUENTIAL INVESTORS
AND BANKERS REASSURANCE ON THAILAND'S INVESTMENT CLIMATE
AND PROSPECTS. MISSION HAS RECOMMENDED THAT WHEN IN
WASHINGTON HE SEE HEADS OF EXIM BANK AND OPIC. SHOULD
MEETINGS WITH THESE OFFICIALS BE REQUESTED EMBASSY ASKS
THAT ALL APPROPRIATE COURTESIES BE EXTENDED.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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